

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces any and all prior claim lists.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Original). A transdermal formulation for external application comprising a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic, an alkyl ester of gallic acid, and a phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group.

Claim 2 (currently amended). The transdermal formulation for external application according to claim 1, wherein said phenolic radical scavenger is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *tert*-butylhydroxyanisole, di-*tert*-butylhydroxytoluene and thymol.

Claim 3 (currently amended). The transdermal formulation for external application according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein said alkyl ester of gallic acid is an ester of gallic acid and a lower alcohol.

Claim 4 (currently amended). The transdermal formulation for external application according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketoprofen, tiaprofen, suprofen, tolmetin, carprofen, benoxaprofen, piroxicam, benzydamine, naproxen, diclofenac, ibuprofen, diflunisal and azapropazone.

Claim 5 (currently amended). An interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor consisting of a phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group[[,]] ~~and/or~~ and an alkyl ester of gallic acid.

Claim 6 (currently amended). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 5, wherein said phenolic radical scavenger is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *tert*-butylhydroxyanisole, di-*tert*-butylhydroxytoluene and thymol.

Claim 7 (currently amended). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to ~~claim 5 or 6~~ claim 5, wherein said alkyl ester of gallic acid is an ester of gallic acid and a lower alcohol.

Claim 8 (currently amended). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 7~~ claim 5, which is used as a component in a transdermal formulation for external application comprising a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic.

Claim 9 (currently amended). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 8, wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketoprofen, tiaprofen, suprofen, tolmetin, carprofen, benoxaprofen, piroxicam, benzydamine, naproxen, diclofenac, ibuprofen, diflunisal and azapropazone.

Claim 10 (currently amended). A transdermal formulation for external application comprising the interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 9~~ claim 5 and a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic.

Claim 11 (currently amended). The transdermal formulation for external application according to claim 10, wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketoprofen, tiaprofen, suprofen, tolmetin,

carprofen, benoxaprofen, piroxicam, benzydamine, naproxen, diclofenac, ibuprofen, diflunisal and azapropazone.

Claim 12 (currently amended). ~~Use of the following substance (a) and/or substance (b) for inhibition of~~ A method for inhibiting interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production[[.]] comprising utilizing at least one member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) A phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group, and
- (b) An alkyl ester of gallic acid.

Claim 13 (currently amended). ~~Use of the following substance (a) and/or substance (b) as a component in a~~ A transdermal formulation for external application comprising a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic[[.]] and at least one member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) A phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group, and
- (b) An alkyl ester of gallic acid.